



VOL. XII, NO. 117.

WICHITA, KANSAS, WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 2, 1890.

WHOLE NO. 1827.

## THE GREAT SOUTHWEST

### HARPER, HAMILTON AND HODGEMAN COUNTIES.

#### Three Thrifty Communities Challenging Admiration.

#### Railroad Facilities, Fertile Farms, Prosperous Cities and Towns.

#### Industrial Enterprises, Mineral Waters and Other Deposits, Artesian Wells, Schools, Churches, Social Advantages and Equable Climate.

##### Harper County.

Harper county, Kansas, is bounded on the north by Kingman, on the east by Sumner, on the south by the Indian Territory, and on the west by Barber county. It is situated about the center of the southern tier of counties. The county was organized in 1888 and has a population of 15,000.

The surface is slightly rolling, sloping toward the east and south, which renders artificial drainage needless.

The Chikaskia river flows through the northeast part. A number of other streams course through it, among which are Bluff Creek, Silver Creek, Sand Creek, and Spring Creek.

The soil is a dark, sandy loam, very fertile as is shown by the crops it produces and the heavy growth of blue stem grass.

The average depth of water is about twenty feet. The water is healthful.

Good building stone is found in different parts of the county. Solid rock underlies the surface to a depth of about 1,000 feet.

Two salt plants are operated at Anthony, the county seat.

This is chiefly an agricultural county. Wheat, oats and corn are grown. There was harvested in this county in 1889, 37,800 acres of wheat, average yield twenty-two bushels per acre; 32,800 acres of corn, which produced a large yield, but a great deal of the crop was destroyed by wet weather.

What was harvested made a good yield. There was \$8,400 acres of corn, yielding on an average forty bushels shelled corn per acre. Sorghum is grown. A sugar mill is operated at Atolia.

Live stock, consisting of hogs, cattle and horses, is raised.

The county has good railroad facilities. The Santa Fe railroad enters the county on the east, running nearly west through it, passing through Albion, Danville, Harper, Crystal Springs, Atolia, Crisfield, At Anthony, the county seat, and then running west, the other to Panhandle, Texas.

The Missouri Pacific railroad enters the county on the east, runs nearly southwest through the county, passing through Freeport, Anthony, Biella and Corvina. The Frisco railroad enters the county near the southwest corner and terminates at Anthony, Bluff City is on this line. The Omaha, Hutchinson & Gulf railroad is graded through more than half of the county, from north to south, and according to contract, is to be completed to the Indian territory by June 1, 1890. The prospective point of this road is the Gulf of Mexico.

Schools require 100 teachers, and there is not a section which is not provided with free school privileges. The towns have well graded schools, and great interest is taken in education.

Within the county, there are two cities of the second class, Harper and Anthony. Harper, the county seat, has one of the finest school buildings in the state. Ten teachers in her schools. Harper has a population equal to that of Anthony.

Anthony, a beautiful city, besides the Harper normal and business college, is located in this city, giving an opportunity to obtain a higher education. Rummyville is a flourishing English town, situated in the northeast part. A number of capitalists are locating here and are fast building up a town.

Danville, Freeport and Bluff City, situated in the eastern part, are the greatest wheat shipping points in the county. Atolia has a creamery and a sorghum-sugar mill.

Hodgeman County.

Located 20 miles west of Kansas City and eighty miles east of the Colorado line, is twenty-four by thirty-six miles in area and contains 55,300 acres.

The face of the country is generally smooth and level, with a few scattered hills and valleys. The soil is rich and fertile, and the climate is healthy.

The county is traversed by numerous streams, chief of which are the Pawnee, Buckner, Sevier and the Western. The Pawnee, tributaries fed by never-failing springs, furnish an abundance of pure water. An inexhaustible supply of excellent water may be obtained in any part of the county as depths vary from ten to seventy feet.

With the latitude of southern Kentucky and Virginia, the climate is healthy, and the soil is rich and fertile. The county has a large number of fine farms, and the people are generally well-to-do.

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#### Floods and Rigorous Weather Doing Much Mischief—Reports to the "Farmers' Review"—The Cherokee Strip Association of Caldwell Organized Under Its Charter—Western Items.

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Hamilton County is situated on the west side of the state. It is twenty-seven and one-half miles east and west, and thirty-six miles north and south, and contains eight hundred and ninety square miles, or 569,000 acres of land.

The Arkansas river enters the county about midway on the west side, and flows in a southeasterly direction through the county. The surface is slightly rolling, sloping toward the east and south, which renders artificial drainage needless.

The uplands are level, becoming undulating as you approach the river from either side. The soil is a rich, sandy loam, well adapted to agricultural purposes; the only drawback being a lack of moisture, from which we have been helped by the heavy growth of blue stem grass.

The Alamo Irrigating and Manufacturing Co. has now twenty miles of ditch in actual operation. The Colorado & Kansas Canal and Reservoir Co. is constructing a very large ditch through the south part of the county and four other companies are projecting ditches to be built the coming season; one of the largest to be built through the table lands in the north part of the county. The other three are to be built through the river bottom lands.

Hamilton county has plenty of building stone, of various kinds, the most valuable for building is the famous "Missouri limestone" which can be secured in any desired shape or size. Good water is obtained in the bottom lands at a depth of from ten to fifteen feet, and on the table lands from twenty-five to two hundred feet.

The first artesian water found in Kansas was at Caldwell, in this county, at a depth of two hundred feet. Below we give the chemical analysis of the water in the Caldwell artesian wells:

Organic matter . . . . . 0.22  
Silica . . . . . 1.05  
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Bicarb. of lime . . . . . 7.50  
Bicarb. of magnesia . . . . . 3.64  
Bicarb. of soda . . . . . 0.90  
Total solid . . . . . 14.30  
Chloride, combined . . . . . 1.70

The Arkansas river is spanned by three good bridges: one at Caldwell, one at Syracuse and one at Kansas.

There are four towns elaborately laid out in this county, Syracuse, Caldwell, Lee and Kendall. Syracuse, the county seat, is situated near the center of the county; it contains a population of about five hundred; has two splendid brick buildings, a city hall, and a \$35,000 school building. The other towns are also well represented.

Most of the goods destined for Stanton and Morton counties are shipped to this point, and this is a distributing point for all mail matter destined for those counties.

Caldwell is the end of a division of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad and is situated within two miles of the Colorado state line. It has a population of five hundred; has a magnificent stone hotel and many other buildings, and a \$20,000 stone school building besides the railroad company has a fine round house and several other buildings in this town. Churches, schools and business colleges are also well represented. The city is supplied with artesian water by the Peck Water Works company.

Kendall is a good town, situated on the east line of the county. It has a population of about two hundred well-to-do citizens, and is eight miles from the city of Lawrence.

Lee is but a plain station yet, but has possibilities in view. It has a neat little stone school building and other improvements.

There is yet considerable government land in this county. Deeded land can be bought and made into farms. The people are willing to work and capitalists are wanted here, and this can be made one of the best counties in the state.

**MORE LEAVES BROKEN.**

**Hundreds of People Surrounded by Water in Arkansas.**

St. Louis, Mo., April 1.—Information from the flooded districts in Arkansas, where the levees broke last week, is to the effect that the breaks occurred so suddenly that the people had barely time to save their lives, being obliged to witness the destruction of all their property and much of their lives. These breaks occurred in the following places: near Helena and Arkansas City. In three hours the levee was filled even with the surface of the river, and the people were left in a state of panic.

On Friday night the water was so high that the steamers Houston, Combs and Helena to Helena to help the people. A correspondent on board writes that when the steamers arrived at the circle a number of houses were found to have been blown off their blocks or stilts and others were badly crumpled over into the water. Several people were seen in the water and some were rescued when they remained all of last Thursday night and a number of cattle were blown from the levee and drowned.

On Friday men went over the whole circle in skiffs and transferred people from trees and roofs to the gin houses which are generally large and substantial buildings. All these houses are now packed with people, two hundred persons being in some of them. The Combs brought out 120 people and took them to Helena, arriving there yesterday. When the Combs came out of the circle the steamer Titan with barges was going in and it is thought that they can bring as many people as desire to get away. Many of the planters in the circle are utterly ruined and the remainder have no seed to plant even should the water subside at time to put in a crop. The suffering has been and will be great and aid of all kinds will be necessary to carry the people through their affliction.

**THE LITTLE KANAWHA'S WORK.**

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